

THE SUTTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SUTTON, MASSACHUSETTS

— BULLETIN —

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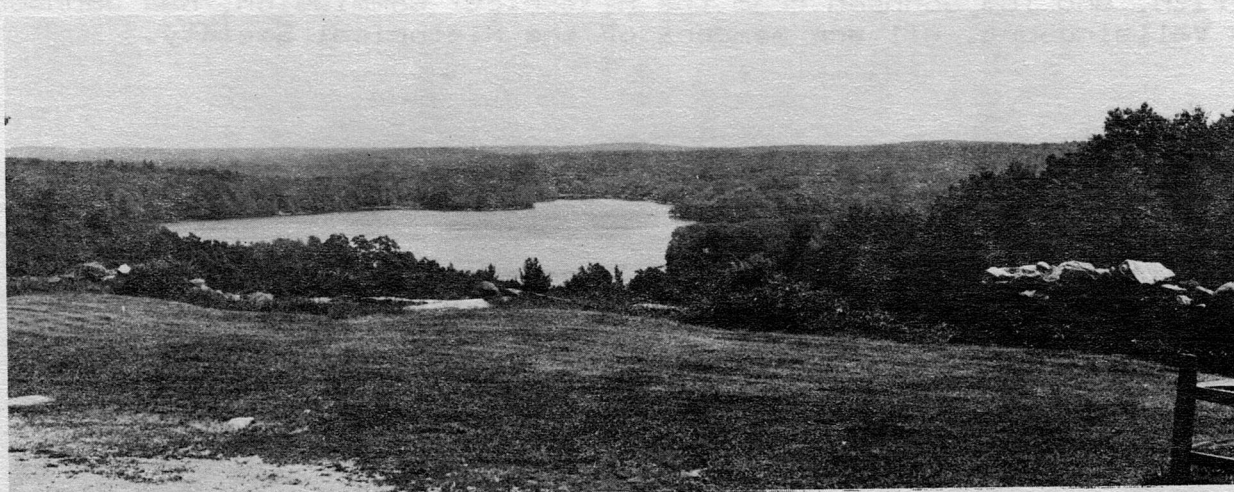
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MARY KING



MANCHAUG POND FROM WATERS FARM

A LEGACY TO BE CHERISHED AND PRESERVED

By Ol' Samuel Suttonian

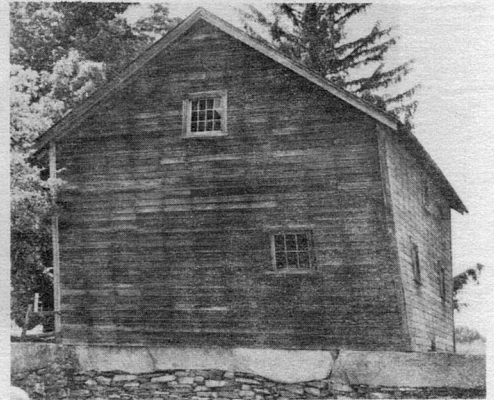
Rarely, does a community realize the unusual privilege of possessing a living and viable physical transition with its historical evolution.

The Waters Farm on Waters Road, West Sutton was donated to Sutton by Dorothea [Waters] Moran. The Farm consists of 102 acres with about twenty-five hundred feet of frontage on Manchaug Pond. From the front lawn is a most enticing view of the Pond. The house was built in 1757. Modifications to the structure were made during the intervening 200 years. Family occupation and record keeping has been continuous. Uniquely, we are most fortunate in possessing a documentation of life in the Waters Family. Thus, the land, buildings, and family became one composite historical entity.

The real estate complex consists of: homestead, barn, considerable acreage in field and forest, extensive water frontage on Manchaug Pond, and much of the land is located in a natural watershed. Jurisdiction for its management was assigned to the Sutton Conservation Commission in 1974 when Mrs. Moran granted the property to the Town of Sutton with limited stipulations.

Currently, under the sustained efforts of Bud Gurney, Conservation Commission member, CETA funds have become available to implement several aspects of an outdoor program to clear trails for hiking, horseback riding, snowshoeing, cross country skiing and kindred activities. Motorized vehicles are prohibited on the property. Future projects include re-planting of certain apple species for perpetuation such as "Sutton Beauty" (which originated on the Waters Farm) and "Sutton Spies", Christmas Tree plantation for income, and vegetable gardens.

In May, the Conservation Commission by letter requested assistance from the Historical Commission to review the immediate structural problems of the buildings and submit recommendations for their preservation. Several weekly meetings ensued which included site inspections, the formation of a Coordinating Committee, application for membership in the Society for Preservation of New England Antiquities (for professional advice) and formulation of an initial priority agenda to schedule a realistic rehabilitation project. Assigned to the Coordinating Committee are three persons from the Conservation Commission, Bud Gurney, Dan Griffith, and Tom Johnson from the Historical Commission, Rae Johnson and Gary Vallaincourt, all are members of the Historical Society.

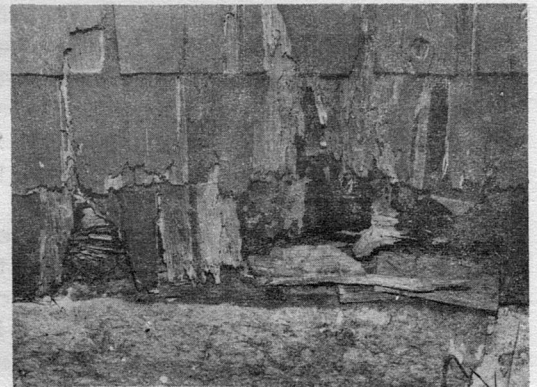


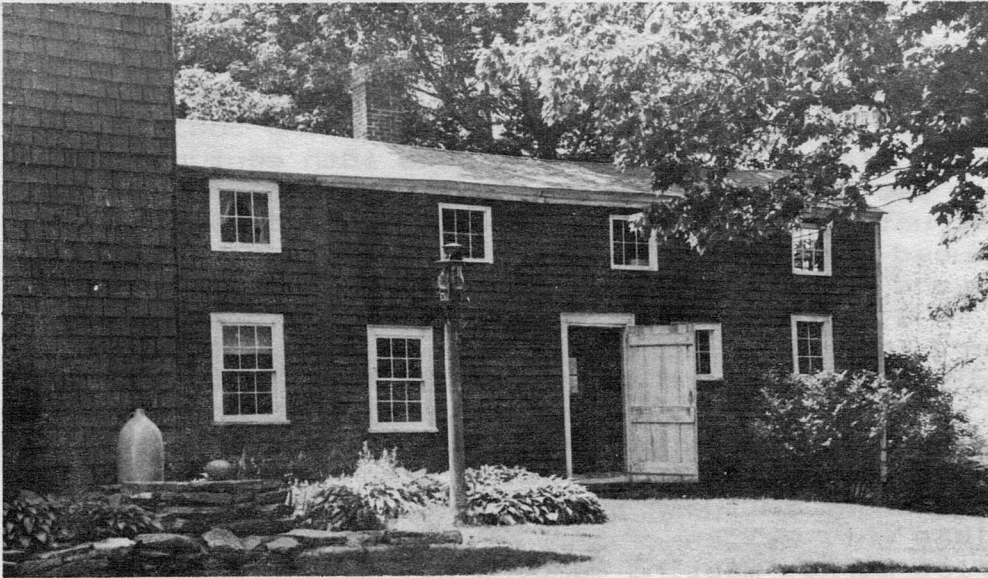
Barn to be repaired and utilized for headquarters and storage.

Waters Homestead during Sutton 250th Anniversary.



Typical exterior areas requiring restoration.





A caretaker's living quarters will be provided in the North Ell of the homestead.

On April 5, Dr. Abbott L. Cummings, the Executive Director of the Society for the Preservation of N. E. Antiquities, visited the Waters homestead. He expressed great admiration for the premises and the unusual aspects of the continual family lineage with historical records.

Photographs accompanying this article illustrate structural items that require prompt attention. It is certain the immediate nucleus of persons intent on preservation of the Waters Farm heritage will interest others into a sustained and effectual effort toward that goal.

Comprehensively, the whole of Sutton is involved - the two century heritage as a bequest is an exceptional opportunity for the townspeople to align themselves for the perpetuation of this unique property for future generations.

Blackstone Valley Art Association
Festival Awards to Society Member
Linda Sinacola

Oil and Acrylic
First Prize: "Faded Summer"

Watercolor
First Prize: "Lady's Slippers with Violets"
Second Prize: "Bates Farm"

Best of Show
"Faded Summer"

Popular Vote
"Faded Summer"



BATES FARM

By Linda Sinacola

Original made available to photograph
by Mrs. Hunter Greenwood

June 1980

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM REVIEWS - (A Short Synopsis)

April - The Society met with guests at the Manchaug Baptist Church to hear Dr. Abbott Lowell Cummings, Executive Director for the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, discuss 18th century colonial architecture. His lecture was graphically illustrated and included slides of English construction which influenced New England design. Mrs. Joseph Mingolla introduced the speaker having attended a seminar conducted by Mr. Cummings at Harvard University. Over a hundred persons attended the April meeting and enjoyed the informal discussion Mr. Cummings had with many members after the program.

May - A kaleidoscope display of quilts dominated the West Sutton Baptist Church Community Hall in a fantastic array of geometric and artistic patterns. Mrs. Thomas Manahan presented many examples of her own craft with an explanation of techniques in quilting. Then she commented on the work by individuals who had brought in their own samples. Truly, the craftsmanship of quilting lives on!

June - As usual, pre-flea market meeting members met at the Blacksmith Shop in preparation for the June 7th market. This year a drenching rain persisted all day necessitating division of location - articles inside at the Shop with food and crafts at the Town Hall. The article sale was carried over to June 14th. A gross of approximately four hundred and fifty dollars was raised regardless of the inclement weather. We gratefully salute the food personnel and the fine cooperation of other Society members in the flea market saga.

1980 - APRIL, MAY and JUNE - WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Hector Arbour
M/M Arthur M. Fitts, Jr.
M/M Dana Gravison
Tendleton & Laura Havener
M/M Marshall Lignian
Miss Sigrid M. Mellin
Daniel & Joan Moroney
Andrew & Patricia Nedorosick
Patrick M. Orrell
Charles M. Plummer

Orrin & Julie Robbins
Mrs. Carol Scruggs
Norman & Sue Shaw
M/M Harry W. Smith
William & Joy Stafford
Thomas & Joan Tighe
M/M John L. Virgilio
M/M Ernest Walsh, Jr.
M/M Ralph H. Waters
M/M Warren L. Wheeler, Jr.

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